

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Toshiyoshi ICHIKAWA et al.)
) Group Art Unit:
Application No.: 10/574,695)
) Examiner:
Filed: April 5, 2006)
) **MAIL STOP PCT**
For: LASER BEAM MACHINE)

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §
1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a statement as specified by Section 1.97(e).

The following constitutes the statement specified by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).
Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a

communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication. Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached. English translations of the non-English documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: 11 / 13 / 08

By: 

Chris T. Mizumoto
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Enclosures
CTM/en